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1. IN OUR NOTE 19/70 OF 3 FEBRUARY 1970 WHICH WAS BASED ON COVERAGE UP THROUGH DECEMBER 1969, WE INDICATED THAT THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AT THE SAM TRAINING FACILITIES AT SHAN TAN, CHINA HAD NOT CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS. WE AGREE THAT THE LAUNCH FACILITIES AT SHAN TAN TRAINING AREA B WERE INACTIVE DURING 1968 AND EARLY 1969 AND THAT ACTIVITIES RESUMED IN THE LATTER HALF OF 1969, BUT WE BELIEVE THERE WAS LESS ACTIVITY IN THIS LATTER PERIOD THAN WAS SEEN IN APRIL 1967.

2. OUR EVALUATION OF ACTIVITY LEVELS AT SHAN TAN AREA B WAS AN OVERALL JUDGEMENT BASED ON TWO FACTORS -- THE NUMBER OF LAUNCH SITES OCCUPIED AND THE AMOUNT OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY OBSERVED THERE. OCCUPANCY

IN APRIL 1967, THREE SITE SETS OF SA-2 EQUIPMENT WERE EVIDENT AT SHAN TAN AREA B. ONE SET EACH WAS AT SITES A, B, AND C. IN THE LATTER HALF OF 1969, ONLY TWO SETS WERE EVIDENT DESPITE THE

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AVAILABILITY OF THREE IMPROVED LAUNCH SITES, ONE OF THEM RECENTLY UPGRADED. IN DECEMBER NO LAUNCH EQUIPMENT WAS PRESENT. CONSTRUCTION

IN SEPTEMBER 1969, LAUNCH SITE D AT SHAN TAN AREA B WAS UPGRADED TO THE SAME STATUS AS SITES A AND B, WITH THE ADDITION OF REVETTING AROUND THE TWO EXISTING LAUNCH POSITIONS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR UNRETTED LAUNCH POSITIONS. SINCE THAT TIME, LAUNCH SITE C HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO DETERIORATE SOMEWHAT.

IN EVALUATING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONSTRUCTION AT TRAINING AREA B, WE HAVE REGARDED THE BARRACKS BUILDINGS BUILT DURING LATE 1968 AND 1969 AS AN IMPROVEMENT OF ACCOMMODATIONS RATHER THAN AN EXPANSION OF THEM. THE SPACE AVAILABLE IN THE NEW PERMANENT BARRACKS APPEARS SUITABLE FOR ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER OF PERSONNEL AS COULD PREVIOUSLY HAVE BEEN ACCOMMODATED IN THE TENT CAMPS, CONSIDERING THE DIFFERENCES IN LIVING CONDITIONS WHICH SUCH A CHANGE WOULD PROBABLY BRING ABOUT. QUANTITIES OF TENTS HAVE NOT BEEN OBSERVED AT SHAN TAN AREA B SINCE JUNE 1969, AT WHICH TIME THE MAJORITY OF THE PERMANENT BUILDINGS APPEARED COMPLETED.

3. THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE SHAN TAN SAM TRAINING FACILITIES ACQUIRED THUS FAR IN 1970 INDICATES THAT THE AREAS ARE ACTIVE AGAIN.

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LAUNCH SITES B AND D AT TRAINING AREA B WERE OCCUPIED IN JANUARY AND IN MARCH

WHEREAS IN DECEMBER, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH OF LAST WINTER TRAINING AREA B WAS UNOCCUPIED WHEN OBSERVED. AT TRAINING AREA A ON THE MARCH PHOTOGRAPHY, A NEW SA-2 SITE WITH REVETTED LAUNCH POSITIONS AND A GUIDANCE AREA WAS UNDER CONSTRUCTION OUTSIDE THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE TRAINING AREA. IN ADDITION A TRAINING SITE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED INSIDE THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE TRAINING AREA. THIS REPRESENTS THE MOST NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ACTIVITY THAT HAS BEEN OBSERVED AT SHAN TAN AREA A SINCE ABOUT MID-1966. WE ARE CURRENTLY PREPARING A NOTE ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE NEW DEVELOPMENTS. GP-1

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